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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/809,110	03/16/2001	Ryuichi Matsukura	1405.1038	8919
21171	7590	12/15/2005	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			FILIPCZYK, MARCIN R	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2163	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/809,110

Applicant(s)

MATSUKURA ET AL.

Examiner

Marc R. Filipczyk

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 August 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 March 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. <u>8/3/04</u> . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

Response to Amendment

This Action is responsive to Applicant's response filed August 30, 2004.

Amended claims 1-23 are pending.

To expedite the process of examination Examiner requests that all future correspondences in regard to overcoming prior art rejections or other issues (e.g. amendments, 35 U.S.C. 112, objections and the like) set forth by the Examiner that Applicants provide and link to the most specific page and line numbers of the disclosure where the best support is found (see 35 U.S.C. 132).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the **first paragraph** of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The subject matter of "display condition" and "filtering by the acquired user profile information" was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the **second paragraph** of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

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Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claims 1, 2, 22 and 23, the phrase “display condition” is indefinite. It is not clear what the metes and bounds of display condition are. The segment, “the additional information” is indefinite. Storing parameters in the additional information database is performed but it is not clear what the additional information is, since no additional data is presented. The feature of “filtering” is indefinite. It is not clear how filtering is performed. Further, there appears to be no support for filtering in the specification.

Regarding claims 3-21 depend from claim 2 respectively, and are therefore rejected on the same basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as best as the Examiner is able to ascertain being anticipated by Handel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,195,651).

Regarding claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 14, 22 and 23, Handel discloses a product information system and method comprising (fig. 10A, 1020 and 1070):

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additional information management means (fig. 10A, 1020) for storing in an additional information database parameters of user profile information [personal preferences, behavioral information, history](fig. 10A, 1060 and col. 30 lines 41-55), associating (col. 30, line 44, *link*) an individual product of a product information database (fig. 10A, 1050, *product list*, col. 30, line 45) with additional information classified based upon predetermined user profile information, in additional information database (fig. 10A, 1060);

(Note: via integrator 1020 and supplier's server 1070 the database 1050 links databases 1030, 1040, 1050 and 1060 with supplier databases 1080; see col. 30, lines 43-45)

product information presentation means for presenting basic information for the individual product to a user from the product information database (fig. 10A, 1050 and 1010);

profile information acquisition means (fig. 10A, item 1020) for acquiring profile information (fig. 10A, 1060) of the user (fig. 10A, 1010) wishing to look up basic information for the individual product (fig. 10A, items 1050 and 1080);

(Note: database 1050 partially acquires basic product information via server 1070)

display parameters *processing* means (fig. 10A, 1020, 1050 and 1070) for selecting from the additional information database (fig. 10A, 1080 and 1040), the additional information corresponding to the acquired user according to the predetermined user profile classification of the additional information of the presented individual product (fig. 10A, 1060); and,

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additional information presentation means for presenting to said user (fig. 10A, 1010) for the presented individual product, the selected additional information together with the presented basic information (fig. 10A, 1040 and 1080, see also associated text).

(Note: for example, the additional information may be product rating and price)

Regarding claims 3, 4, 6 and 9, Handel discloses the profile information acquisition means conducts wireless communication with a user terminal storing that user's profile information to acquire the user's profile information (fig. 17, items 1710, 1730 and 1750).

(Note: identification of a user is inherent from a user profile)

Regarding claim 10, Handel discloses a product information management server manages a profile database (fig. 10A, 1060 and 1020, and col. 34, lines 35-38).

(Note: merchants trying to provide a service to the user further imply they manage the profile)

Regarding claim 11, Handel teaches a customer management server (fig 10A, 1020) interconnected with said product information server (fig. 10A, 1070) manages a profile database (fig. 10A, 1060, and col. 34, lines 35-38).

(Note: the profile gateway server receives all requests for profile information from the user himself)

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Regarding claims 12 and 13, Handel discloses product information server (fig. 10A, 1070) manages said additional information database (fig. 10A, 1040).

(Note: server 1070 manages 1040 along with server 1020)

Regarding claims 15-19, Handel discloses a java applet for displaying information, accepting text input (col. 8, lines 35-61), and managing text messages (fig. 11, items 1111-1122).

(Note: for more detail also see agents on col. 35 lines 38-61)

Regarding claims 20 and 21, Handel discloses an order procedure accepting product orders from user terminal (fig. 10A, items 1090 and 1010).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on August 30, 2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The arguments and responses are listed below.

Applicant argues on pages 9 and 10 of the 8/30/2004 response, that Handel does not teach storing in an additional information database "parameters of user profile information which is a display condition to display the additional information".

In response to Applicant's argument, Examiner disagrees. Examiner notes that the amended pending claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 first and second paragraphs for introducing new subject matter and indefiniteness, and are further rejected with prior art as best

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as the Examiner is able to ascertain what is claimed. Referring to fig. 10A, Handel discloses a customer (1010) acquiring basic information from a supplier (1070 and 1080) while a server (1020) uses the customer's profile (1060) along with the supplier's product information (1070 and 1080) and existing information (1040 and 1050) to select information for the customer consisting of additional information for the desired products (1040 *product ratings*, and 1080, *price and features of each product*) based on the supplier and customer profile databases (1050 and 1060) along with integrator's web server and supplier's web server (1020 and 1070). The user parameters are stored in the customer profile database comprising personal preferences and history (col. 30, lines 41-55).

Applicant argues on page 22 of the 8/30/2004 response, that Handel does not teach filtering, by the acquired user profile information.

In response to Applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the feature upon which applicant relies "filtering" is not disclosed by the specification. Note, Handel discloses selecting products based on customer profile (see fig. 10A and rejection above).

With respect to all the pending claims 1-23, Examiner respectfully traverses Applicant's assertion based on the discussion cited above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

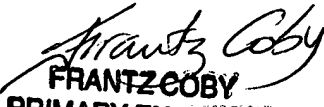
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc R. Filipczyk whose telephone number is (571) 272-4019. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 8:30am-5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on (571) 272-4023. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MF
December 5, 2005


FRANTZ COBY
PRIMARY EXAMINER